

Appendix J.

Supplemental Sampling of Non-Coastal States and Counties

TABLE OF CONTENTS

BACKGROUND.....	3
REQUIREMENTS.....	3
1.0 Telephone Survey	3
2.0 Reporting Requirements Survey	4
3.0 Data Transmittal	4
4.0 Confidentiality.....	4
SECTION B - PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE	4
Table J.1. Example Sample Size for Non-Coastal Zones of MRFSS Covered States.....	5
Table J.2. Example Sample Size for States Not Included in MRFSS	6

BACKGROUND

The MRFSS expands the coastal county household trip estimates with ratios of coastal, non-coastal, and out-of-state interviews obtained through the intercept survey in order to calculate the total number of marine recreational fishing trips. In some cases, these ratios cause the estimates to be unstable and highly variable. They especially effect cells where there is a low prevalence of marine recreational fishing activity, such as the charter and head boat mode and winter waves in northern areas. Expansion of the dialing frame to the non-coastal zone of coastal states and to all states allows direct estimation of trips and may help decrease the variability of the estimates. This expansion in coverage may help public perception of the MRFSS as it is an easier and more direct methodology to explain to fishermen and the general public. The expansion also increases the types of data available from the MRFSS through construction of complete matrices of participation (state-of-residence by state of trips), providing useful economic and social information.

REQUIREMENTS

1.0 Telephone Survey

The telephone survey dialing frame is expanded to include the non-coastal counties of all coastal states currently in the survey and to include all inland and coastal states not currently in the survey. All telephone interviews will follow the procedures specified for the routine coastal zone telephone survey, except that special care will need to be made to exclude or flag freshwater trips.

For coastal states with expanded dialing zones, samples may be made randomly across the whole non-coastal zone or the allocations may be made by county, according to other factors such as the square root of the population size or activity levels. The sampling method will be determined by NMFS with advice from the contractor using available data. The NMFS will provide county by county or state by state allocations to the contractor depending on the method chosen.

Pennsylvania samples may be allocated on a county by county basis similar to coastal states with expanded dialing zones. Current interview data show that Pennsylvania residents contribute significantly (54%) to the number of out-of-state residents interviewed in the mid-Atlantic subregion. Further analysis shows that 85% of the Pennsylvania participants come from the Philadelphia and Pittsburgh areas so some stratification seems warranted. Example sample sizes are provided in Table L.1.

For states that currently are not in the survey, except Pennsylvania, the sample will be drawn at random within the state. Sample allocations for those states states will be based on population size and current information on marine recreational fishing activity (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 1995 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation.). As data are collected, these allocations may be adjusted based on activity rates. After preliminary data are analyzed for homogeneity based on rural vs urban, distance from the coast or other factor, some stratification within each state may be developed. Example sample sizes are

provided in Table L.2.

2.0 Reporting Requirements

All reporting requirements in the Statement of Work for the 1999 contract that apply to the routine survey of coastal county households are incorporated in this Statement of Work by reference.

3.0 Data Transmittal

The Contractor shall transfer through computer network, or place on agreed upon magnetic media, all data collected from the expanded telephone survey. Data shall be provided in the same data sets as routine MRFSS telephone interview and sampling data. Data shall be provided as specified in *Section F.2, Time of Delivery*. Data base format shall be the same as for the routine telephone survey and data editing shall follow the same procedures. If upon review by NMFS or the Contractor, records appear to be unreasonable, the Contractor may be required to re-contact the household to verify that the information was correctly recorded during the interview.

4.0 Confidentiality

The data collected shall be used only for statistical purposes, and will be available in identifiable form only to NMFS and its Contractors except as otherwise required by law. All requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-579) concerning the collection and use of identifiable information for individuals shall be observed. All copies of the application forms shall be returned to the NMFS or destroyed at the COTR's direction upon completion of the survey.

SECTION B - PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE

The work shall commence upon completion of a change order to the existing contract and continue through February 28, 2001. Interviews in the expanded dialing frame shall commence within 2 months of receipt of the change order.